

The following is a copy of the Abstract of the invention:

An optical system and method of use includes at least one light source, each of which transmit light substantially of a particular wavelength range in a substantially randomly polarized state or an unpolarized state. The optical system includes a reflective polarizer coupled to the light source, and an element that redirects the reflected light through the light source and onto the reflective polarizer. Illustratively there is substantially no optical distance between the light source and the element. An optical package, which recycles reflected light is also disclosed.